



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/785,382	02/16/2001	Magaly Correa	888	2389

7590 12/04/2001

John D. Gugliotta, P.E., Esq.
202 Delaware Building
137 South Main Street
Akron, OH 44308

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

O'MALLEY, KATHRYN S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3749	

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/785,382	CORREA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kathryn S. O'Malley	3749

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 16 February 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2 . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 60 and 62. Correction is required.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: page 4, line 17 should refer to Figure 2 not Figure 1; page 6, line 4 should read "34 and allow"; page 7, line 20 should read "are in electrical"; page 7, line 19 should read "power cord 24"; page 8, line 13 should read "is used as".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-5, and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Vallis.

Vallis discloses a blow dryer apparatus with an elongated handle and extending head along a center line and a nozzle directed perpendicularly from said center line. The apparatus also includes an air outlet port, a rim, and a brush attachment that covers said air outlet port. Note column 2, line 64- column 3, line 15 and Figure 3.

Art Unit: 3749

Furthermore, the brush attachment is semi-cylindrical, supports a plurality of bristles, and forms a plurality of air dispersion orifices. These orifices are spaced to allow airflow between adjacent bristles. Note column 2, lines 11-20 and Figures 1 and 2. Regarding claims 8-11, Vallis does not define the diameter of the brush. His invention must, therefore, be assumed to include brushes of any diameter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vallis as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Weiss.

The apparatus disclosed by Vallis does not comprise a power cord or hook grasping means as claimed. However, Weiss discloses a similar apparatus, a hair dryer, that comprises both of these elements. Note column 2, lines 54-60; column 5, lines 30-32; and Figure 2. As hanging small appliances from hooks and powering a blow dryer with a power cord are common, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Vallis's blow dryer with Weiss's power cord and hook grasper.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vallis as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of Scivoletto.

The brush attachment means disclosed by Vallis does not comprise tethers as claimed. However, Scivoletto discloses a similar apparatus that does. Scivoletto's blow dryer attachment is attached with a tether, or elastic strap, designed to circumscribe the head of the blow drier. Note column 2, lines 56-61 and Figure 1. As similar use of tethers in such attachment devices is common, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Vallis's blow dryer attachment with Scivoletto's attachment means.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vallis as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Barr, Jr.

While concavity is claimed, it is not seen in the disclosed wall mount. However, as can best be understood, while the blow dryer disclosed by Vallis does not comprise a wall mount as claimed, Barr discloses a similar apparatus that does. Barr's hair dryer caddy is a wall mount shaped to house a hair dryer and accessories, such as brushes. Note column 2, lines 38-50 and Figure 1. As caddies of this sort are common, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Vallis's apparatus with Barr's caddy.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bonnema discloses a hair dryer with brush attachment.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kathryn S. O'Malley whose telephone number is (703)308-2844. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5:00).

Art Unit: 3749

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ira Lazarus can be reached on (703)308-1935. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9302 for regular communications and (703)872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1148.

kso
November 21, 2001



Ira S. Lazarus
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700

Attachment for PTO-948 (Rev. 03/01, or earlier)

6/18/01

The below text replaces the pre-printed text under the heading, "Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes," on the back of the PTO-948 (Rev. 03/01, or earlier) form.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

1. Correction of Informalities -- 37 CFR 1.85

New corrected drawings must be filed with the changes incorporated therem. Identifying indicia, if provided, should include the title of the invention, inventor's name, and application number, or docket number (if any) if an application number has not been assigned to the application. If this information is provided, it must be placed on the front of each sheet and centered within the top margin. If corrected drawings are required in a Notice of Allowability (PTO-37), the new drawings **MUST** be filed within the **THREE MONTH** shortened statutory period set for reply in the Notice of Allowability. Extensions of time may NOT be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b) for filing the corrected drawings after the mailing of a Notice of Allowability. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

2. Corrections other than Informalities Noted by Draftsperson on form PTO-948.

All changes to the drawings, other than informalities noted by the Draftsperson, **MUST** be made in the same manner as above except that, normally, a highlighted (preferably red ink) sketch of the changes to be incorporated into the new drawings **MUST** be approved by the examiner before the application will be allowed. No changes will be permitted to be made other than correction of informalities, unless the examiner has approved the proposed changes.

Timing of Corrections

Applicant is required to submit the drawing corrections within the time period set in the attached Office communication. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Failure to take corrective action within the set period will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application.